

Medicare Prescription Drug Program



RULES ABOUT SWITCHING PLANS

It is important that you choose carefully when you pick a Medicare prescription drug (Medicare Part D) plan. In general, you can only change once a year during the annual open enrollment period. The annual open enrollment period to change Medicare prescription drug plans is from November 15 – December 31.

There are certain exceptions to this rule:

- If you are a Medicare beneficiary who is enrolled in Medicaid, you can change plans at any time of the year. The change will take effect the following month.
- You can change plans if you move out of the area served by the plan you're in, but you must do so within 63 days. The change will take effect the month after you provide notice.

If you have a prescription drug plan that is “equal to” or “better than” Medicare’s new prescription drug program and you are either involuntarily terminated from your plan or you voluntarily leave your plan, you will have 63 days from the termination date of your old plan to enroll in a new plan. You also have the opportunity to change plans annually from November 15 – December 31.

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This publication may have been partially funded by grants from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services and the US Administration on Aging.